

**Marine Forces Reserve
Family Readiness Council Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 7, 2005**

I. Attendees

BGen Fruchtnicht, Chairman
CDR Brown, Force Chaplain (Rep)
Mrs. Katie Dixon, Force KVA
Col Ellingson, MFR MCCA Director
Col Herrera, 4th MARDIV
LtCol Glasco, 4th MARDIV FRO
Maj Speegle, MFR FRO
Maj Boyd, 4th FSSG FRO
Maj Sweeney, MFR HQBN FRO
Maj Nollette, 4th MAW FRO
Capt Allosso, MFR C4
Capt Landry, MFR Marine & Family Services
Lt Gleeson, MFR C4
SgtMaj Dixon, MFR SgtMaj
HM2 Saucedo, HSS
Connie Bryant, MFR MCFTB Program Manager

Via Teleconference

Capt Knepper, MOBCOM FRO
CW04 Rivera, 4th CAG FRO
Mrs. Beverly Zwyer, MOBCOM KVC
Mrs. Margaret Davis, 4th FSSG KVA
Mrs. Rebecca Causey, 4th FSSG KVC
Mrs. Felicia Wheeler, MACS-24, 4th MAW Field Representative
Mrs. Lisa O'Connor, 4th FSSG Field Representative

II. Chairman's Message

The Chairman was concerned with the amount of time that past FRC meetings have taken to complete. He wanted to ensure that this and future meetings were streamlined to reduce the burden on the time of participating volunteers.

III. Old Business

a. FRC Minutes Available On-Line

FRC minutes can now be accessed via the MFR MCCA website at <http://www.mfr.usmc.mil/hq/mcca/>.

The Chairman requested feedback from everyone regarding attempts to access the on-line minutes. The Major Subordinate Commands' (MSC) Family Readiness Officers (FRO) will provide this information to the Chairman via Mrs. Bryant, MCFTB, no later than 01 March 2005.

b. FRC Recommendations to the Commander

Attached are copies of the approved decision papers that were forwarded to the Commander after the October 12, 2004 FRC meeting.

- i. Key Volunteer Advisor Position Within Marine Forces Reserve (Approved with Conditions)
The conditions placed by the Commander on this recommendation are 1) MSC commanders encourage the appointment of KVA's at all unit levels "where there is a Key Volunteer Coordinator" and 2) the incorporation of this information into Force Order 1754.2A be held "until new policy guidance is ready." Otherwise, the recommendation has been approved and should be enforced by all MSC's.
- ii. Access to Family Readiness Information Via Marine Forces Reserve Unit Websites (Approved with Conditions)
The condition placed by the Commander on this recommendation was to create a website template that can be used by all units. The template has been created and is available through the C-4 Help Desk.
- c. MFR Unit Website Template
Attached is a copy of a C4 brief concerning access to the MFR Unit Website Template.
C-4 has created an MFR website template that is now available through the C-4 Help Desk. This information was briefed at the MFR Mobilization Symposium in December 2004 and disseminated via email to MFR FRO's.
The Chairman requested feedback from the MSC's regarding use of the template by MFR units. The MSC FRO's will provide this information to the Chairman via Mrs. Bryant, MCFTB, no later than 01 March 2005.
- d. FY05 KVN Funding Usage Report
Status of spending by units of FY05 KVN appropriated funding.
Spending status by MSC: MFR Assets 40%, 4th MARDIV 1.5%, 4th MAW 4%, 4th FSSG 4%. All units should be encouraged to increase spending. A mid-year review will be conducted in March and the information will be provided to the FRC. The Chairman instructed the MSC FRO's to ensure that all units were made aware of the spending status.
- e. KVN Technology Use/Access Survey Results
 - i. Attached is the Executive Summary and survey results provided to the Commander. **Discussion Item:** Information paper on how units can best support their KVN regarding technology use and email access.
C-4 addressed this issue. Currently only a small percentage of Key Volunteers (KV) use a MFR email address or exclusively use government computers to perform KV duties. Different options are being explored to provide the necessary resources to the KVN. However, permanent solutions must come from the Department of Defense (DoD). According to Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC) C-4 and MCFTB, one hindrance is the perception that DoD does not view this issue as a priority. SgtMaj Dixon will work on elevating this issue. C-4, in conjunction with HQMC and MCFTB, will provide an information paper at the next FRC meeting in April.

IV. New Business

a. MotoMail

New military mail service available to family members. Information available on-line at <http://www.motomail.us/>. Capt Burkett, MFR Adjutant/Postal Officer, provided the attached information paper concerning MotoMail. A recommendation was made to look into the possibility of MFR purchasing two scanners for use at Reserve Training Centers (RTC) during Family Days. The scanners would need to be sent to the RTC's upon request along with a staff member to set-up and run the operation. Capt Burkett will research the feasibility of this recommendation.

The basic information concerning MotoMail has been forwarded to MFR FRO's for dissemination and is available on the MFR and MFR MCCS website.

b. Department of Defense Reserve Family Readiness Awards

The winner for MFR is 1st Battalion 23rd Marines, 4th MARDIV. An award ceremony will be held on February 18th at the Pentagon.

c. 2005 Newman's Own Awards

Submission information is available on-line at <http://www.fisherhouse.org>.

Fisher House Foundation is making \$50,000 in grants available to winners of this award. The awards are presented to organizations that strive to improve the quality of life for military families. All MFR units are encouraged to submit an application. All applications must be reviewed by MFR prior to submission. Deadline for submission to MFR is 1 April 2005. Deadline for submission to Fisher House is 30 April 2005.

This information was provided via email to MSC FRO's for dissemination to all units and is available on the MFR MCCS website.

d. L.I.N.K.S. Infomercial Mailout

The LINKS infomercial was created to help inform Marine Corps and Navy family members on the benefits of the program. Two VCR tapes of the infomercial were disseminated in November 2004 to all RTC sites. Copies of the actual LINKS On-Line Training CD's were sent to the RTC sites during the summer of 2004. Mrs. Causey, 4th FSSG KVC, stated that she had viewed the tape and agreed that it was of value and could encourage family members to become KV's. The Chairman requested feedback from everyone regarding receiving the tapes and the value therein. The MSC FRO's will provide this information to the Chairman via Mrs. Bryant, MCFTB, no later than 01 March 2005.

e. Revision of Family Readiness Support Program (FRSP) Force Order 1754.2A

Attached is a copy of For01754.2A. Discussion Item: Input needed for revision to FRSP Force Order.

MCFTB has been tasked to staff the revision of For01754.2A by 25 February 2005. Input is requested from FRC members and MFR units to MCFTB by the first week of February.

f. Post-Combat Stress Information for Families.

The Chairman stated that there is a need to provide information to families on how to recognize Post Combat Stress in Marines returning from combat. MAG-41 is currently using a program called Leadership Readiness System (LRS) to provide this information to their Marines and families. Chaplain Brown stated that the Force pre-deployment brief already provided this information. The Chairman would like a comparison done between the two programs so that the best information can be provided to family members. Maj Speegle will take the lead on gathering information to provide a report at the next FRC meeting in April.

V. Open Forum

- a. Mrs. Davis, 4th FSSG KVA, suggested we review the results of a Headquarters Marine Corps survey concerning the KVN. Mrs. Bryant will gather the necessary information and provide a report at the next FRC meeting in April.
- b. Mrs. Davis also expressed concerns with Marines having pay problems during deployment. The Chairman requested that MSC FRO's provide feedback concerning the nature of current concerns from units and how to better address them.

VI. Closing Remarks

The next FRC meeting is scheduled for 1 April 2005 at 1330.